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United States District Court  
STATE AND DISTRICT OF MINNESOTA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

CRIMINAL COMPLAINT

Case Number:

v.

MS-11-354-JJK

(1) MILTON CARLTON RUCKER, JR.,  
(2) TANIA MARIE THOMPSON,  
a/k/a TANIA MARIE CARSON

I, the undersigned complainant being duly sworn state the following is true and correct to the best of my knowledge and belief. On or about July 22, 2011, in Hennepin County, in the State and District of Minnesota, defendants MILTON CARLTON RUCKER, JR., and TANIA MARIE THOMPSON, a/k/a TANIA MARIE CARSON,

(1) did steal, purloin, and knowingly convert, and without authority sell, convey, and dispose of a thing of value of the United States or of any department of agency thereof, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 641;  
(2) did knowingly attempt and conspire to execute a scheme and artifice to defraud a financial institution, and to obtain, by means of false and fraudulent pretenses and representations, monies and funds owned by and under the custody and control of a financial institution, in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Sections 1349 and 2;  
(3) did knowingly possess and use, without lawful authority, a means of identification of another person, during and in relation to the commission of a felony enumerated in subsection (c), to wit, bank fraud and conspiracy to commit bank fraud,

in violation of Title 18, United States Code, Section 1028A.

I further state that I am a Special Agent and that this complaint is based on the following facts:

SEE ATTACHED AFFIDAVIT

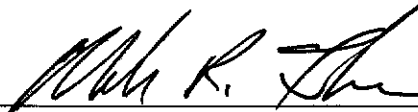
Continued on the attached sheet and made a part hereof: ☒ Yes ☐ No

Sworn to before me, and subscribed in my presence,

7/26/11 4:30 PM  
Date

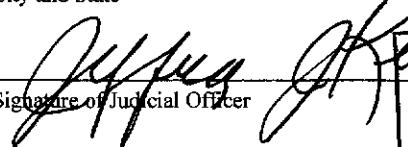
The Honorable Jeffrey J. Keyes  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

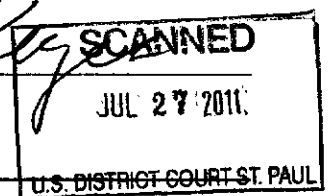
Name & Title of Judicial Officer

  
Signature of Complainant

Mark R. Fredkove  
Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI)

at St. Paul, Minnesota  
City and State

  
Signature of Judicial Officer



STATE OF MINNESOTA     )  
                                      )  
COUNTY OF RAMSEY        )

SS.   AFFIDAVIT OF MARK R. FREDKOVE

I, Mark R. Fredkove, being first duly sworn and under oath, state as follows:

1. I am a Special Agent with the Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI). I have been an FBI Agent for approximately 6½ years. I am currently assigned to a squad which investigates violent crimes, including bank robberies, kidnappings, organized crime, narcotics violations, and crimes against children.

2. I make this Affidavit based on my personal knowledge and upon information provided to me by other law enforcement officials who have been involved in the investigation of the theft of government property from a Federal Bureau of Investigation ("FBI") Special Agent on July 22, 2011, as well as the arrests by the Minneapolis Police Department of MILTON CARLTON RUCKER JR. and TANIA MARIE THOMPSON, a/k/a TANIA MARIE CARSON. This Affidavit does not contain all facts known to me regarding these matters, but only those sufficient to support a finding of probable cause.

3. This affidavit is also made for the purpose of establishing probable cause in support of a search warrant to take buccal (oral) swab samples, in order to obtain saliva and skin cells from which to extract Deoxyribonucleic Acid (DNA), for comparative purposes, from the inside of the mouth of MILTON CARLTON RUCKER JR. and TANIA MARIE THOMPSON, a/k/a TANIA MARIA CARSON. Based upon all of the facts and information set forth in this affidavit, your Affiant believes that probable cause exists to believe that MILTON CARLTON RUCKER JR. and TANIA MARIE THOMPSON, aka TANIA MARIA CARSON have concealed in their mouths DNA evidence which may connect them to committing theft of government property, bank fraud, and aggravated identification theft.

4. On July 22, 2011, at approximately 4:40pm, a Ford Explorer owned by a FBI Special Agent had the rear window broken out while parked near 1999 Franklin Avenue West, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Following the break in of the Explorer, a theft occurred of a duffel bag from the vehicle and the Special Agent's duty pistol and holster, FBI badge and credentials, personal credit cards, a watch, and other items were stolen. The Special Agent immediately reported the credit cards stolen to his financial institution.

5. A short time later, the FBI Special Agent received notice

from his financial institution that one of the stolen credit cards had been used at an unspecified Holiday gas station and an attempt to use the card occurred at a Target store in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota. Agents contacted a Target Investigations employee and confirmed the attempted use of the stolen credit card at approximately 5:52pm. The Target Investigations employee reviewed video surveillance from the Target store in Brooklyn Center and advised that an unknown white female wearing a white tank top, pink pants, and an orange bandana was observed at a register attempting to use the stolen credit card. The employee observed the unknown female on video surveillance exiting the Target store carrying a black purse and entering a tan sedan in the parking lot. The female had attempted to purchase clothing and a \$100 American Express gift card for a total of \$270.37 using one of the FBI Special Agent's cancelled credit cards.

6. Additional investigation determined that the stolen credit card had been used at a Holiday gas station in Minneapolis and contact was made with an employee of the store. The Holiday gas station employee confirmed that the stolen credit card had been used for a \$52.03 charge for gas at approximately 5:13pm. Additionally, FBI Agents reviewed video surveillance from the store and determined that an unknown white female wearing a white tank top, pink pants, and an orange bandana had used the credit card to make a purchase. Subsequent review of the video surveillance by an FBI Agent and a Holiday employee revealed the female entering what appeared to be a grey sedan bearing Minnesota license plate 972GDA. Agents determined that the unknown white female in both the Target and Holiday gas station video surveillance footage was likely the same individual.

7. A Minnesota Department of Vehicle Services check of Minnesota license plate 972GDA determined that ASHLEY NICOLE BASTIN (DOB09/27/1990), of 223 Cedar Lake Road South, Minneapolis, Minnesota was the registered owner of a 1999 tan Buick Century sedan (hereinafter "Buick").

8. A Minneapolis Police Department ("MPD") report from June 21, 2011, revealed that the Buick with license 972GDA was observed in the same area of a reported theft from motor vehicle at 3712 Calhoun Parkway West, Minneapolis, Minnesota. Specifically, prior to the theft a victim-witness observed a unknown black male walking next to parked cars holding a shiny metal object close to his body while he was looking into the windows of vehicles. The witness also observed the black male with a white female driving a tan colored sedan bearing Minnesota license plate 972GDA. A short time later, the witness went for a walk around the lake and then reported to Minneapolis police officers that her vehicle had been broken into and her purse, cell phone, and credit cards were among the items taken.

9. A supplemental MPD report from June 30, 2011, indicated that BASTIN may be involved with thefts from motor vehicles with an individual by the name of MILTON RUCKER (DOB 10/13/1972), of 140 Cedar Lake Road North, Apartment #2, in Minneapolis. The possible relationship between BASTIN and RUCKER was based upon information provided by the Bloomington Police Department ("BPD"). A BPD report indicated that a witness observed a black male walk up to her parked car at a Life Time Fitness and tamper with the driver's side window. The victim-witness also observed a slender white female wearing jeans who appeared to be with the black male. As the victim-witness approached her vehicle, both individuals ran to a Buick bearing Minnesota license 972GDA and left at a high rate of speed. The victim's vehicle had the driver's side window broken, but no items were taken. A BPD detective contacted BASTIN, who stated that RUCKER was using the Buick and denied being at the Life Time Fitness. The victim-witness identified RUCKER from a photo lineup as the individual tampering with her vehicle, but advised that BASTIN was not the white female seen with RUCKER.

10. On July 22, 2011, at approximately 10:30pm, law enforcement officers conducted physical surveillance and determined that the Buick was parked in the driveway of 140 Cedar Lake Road in Minneapolis, a known address for RUCKER. Law enforcement officers approached the apartment building and knocked on the outside door for the building. A white female, later identified as TANIA MARIE THOMPSON, a/k/a TANIA MARIE CARSON (DOB 08/03/1976), answered the door to the building and was identified by FBI Agents as matching the physical description of the female observed in the video surveillance footage from Target during the use of the stolen credit card. THOMPSON stepped outside the building at the request of officers and was placed under arrest by MPD.

11. Law enforcement officers then called to other persons inside the apartment building. A black male, later identified as MILTON RUCKER, exited Apartment #2 and was placed under arrest by MPD. A protective sweep of Apartment #2 was conducted and the apartment was secured and held pending the issuance of a search warrant.

12. On 07/23/2011 at approximately 2:15am, the Honorable Judge Regina Chu of the Hennepin County District Court signed search warrants for 140 Cedar Lake Road, Apartment #2, Minneapolis, Minnesota, and the Buick.

13. Law enforcement officers conducted a search of Apartment #2 and recovered a Bulova wristwatch (later identified as belonging to the victim-Special Agent), purchase receipts, credit cards belonging to other persons, a black wallet with

identification and a piece of mail for MILTON RUCKER, \$357.00 in U.S. currency, numerous cellular telephones, a white tank top shirt, pink pants, a pink bandana, and a black purse. The white female observed in the video surveillance footage from Holiday gas station and Target utilizing the stolen credit card was wearing a white tank top, pink pants, and a pink/orange bandana, and had been carrying a black purse.

14. Additionally, a blue purse with a wallet containing a proof-of-insurance card belong to another individual who owned a BMW vehicle was recovered in the apartment. A subsequent check in MPD records showed that the individual was the victim of a theft from motor vehicle on July 12, 2011, in which her purse and wallet were stolen from her BMW vehicle.

15. Agents and Officers conducted a search of the Buick and recovered a metal window punch tool from the driver's door storage compartment and a partial sparkplug and laptop computer were recovered from the trunk.

16. Following the arrest, THOMPSON was advised of her Miranda rights by a FBI Agent and agreed to be interviewed. THOMPSON admitted that on July 22, 2011, between 5:00-5:30pm, RUCKER picked her up from the City Center shopping area driving the Buick. RUCKER told THOMPSON to drive the vehicle, and she drove to a Holiday gas station in Minneapolis. Once at the Holiday gas station, RUCKER handed THOMPSON two credit cards to purchase gas. One of the credit cards did not work at the gas pump, but the other card was used to purchase gas.

17. After purchasing gas, THOMPSON drove the Buick and dropped RUCKER off at RUCKER's apartment located at 140 Cedar Lake Road North in Minneapolis. THOMPSON stated that RUCKER told her to go to Target and try to use the credit cards there. THOMPSON then drove by herself to the Target on Shingle Creek Parkway in Brooklyn Center, Minnesota. THOMPSON stated she attempted to purchase various household items, but the credit cards were declined. THOMPSON called RUCKER and told him the credit cards were declined. RUCKER then told THOMPSON that there were two additional credit cards in the center console of the Buick and instructed THOMPSON to get rid of them. THOMPSON then threw all the credit cards on the ground in the Target parking lot and returned to RUCKER's house.

18. THOMPSON further told Agents that later in the evening while watching television at RUCKER's apartment, RUCKER received a call on his cellular telephone. THOMPSON stated that she overheard RUCKER talking on the telephone, and he told the person on the other end of the call not to worry about "it" and that he (RUCKER) had "sold it to Jay." THOMPSON also advised Agents that

earlier in the day she overheard RUCKER talking on the phone about a "FBI truck" that had a "piece" in it. THOMPSON indicated that she understood RUCKER to be referring to the gun when he used the term "piece."

19. On July 25, 2011, THOMPSON provided an additional Mirandized statement to investigators. In this statement, THOMPSON admitted that she had participated in or was present during the theft from the Explorer. THOMPSON stated that on July 22, 2011, RUCKER and THOMPSON drove the Buick to a location near a lake in Minneapolis and parked behind a Ford Explorer or Expedition (hereinafter "Explorer"). THOMPSON stated that she observed RUCKER exit the Buick and look inside the window of the Explorer and touch the windows with his hands. RUCKER then told THOMPSON to look inside the window of the Explorer and asked if a bag-like object looked like a purse. THOMPSON told RUCKER that it looked like a purse and observed RUCKER break the rear window with a metal punch tool, which caused the glass to shatter. THOMPSON stated that RUCKER then grabbed a black duffel bag from the rear cargo area of the Explorer and returned to the Buick. RUCKER then asked THOMPSON to retrieve a blue bag that was left in the Explorer, but THOMPSON refused. THOMPSON stated that they departed the area in the Buick.

20. THOMPSON advised that they drove to RUCKER's apartment and parked outside. RUCKER then told THOMPSON that "I hit an FBI Agent." THOMPSON believed that RUCKER was referring to the fact that the items they had stolen from the Explorer belonged to an FBI Agent. THOMPSON stated she then looked into the black duffel bag and observed a handle of a black gun in a black holster. THOMPSON and RUCKER then departed the apartment building without going inside.

21. THOMPSON advised that they then drove the Buick to the Holiday gas station near the Twins stadium and purchased gas with a credit card that had been stolen from the Explorer. After leaving the Holiday gas station, THOMPSON stated that they drove to the area of Cedar Lake Road and Dunwoody where THOMPSON observed RUCKER wrap a black wallet in a washcloth and throw the wallet in or around a dumpster behind a laundromat. This information was relayed to FBI Agents who subsequently recovered the wallet containing the stolen FBI credentials of the Special Agent in the location specified by THOMPSON.

22. THOMPSON further advised that they drove the Buick back to RUCKER's apartment and THOMPSON observed RUCKER grab the black duffel bag and enter the building. THOMPSON then drove by herself to Target on Shingle Creek Parkway in Brooklyn Center where she attempted to purchase various household items. THOMPSON attempted to pay for the items totaling approximately

\$230 with stolen credit cards from the Explorer, but she was advised by the Target employee that the credit cards were declined. THOMPSON then stated that she called RUCKER and told him the stolen credit cards were declined, and RUCKER told her to get rid of the cards. THOMPSON then threw the stolen credit cards on the ground of the Target parking lot and left. All four of the Special Agent's stolen credit cards were subsequently found by patrons in the Target parking lot, turned in to Target security, and returned to the FBI.

23. A short time later THOMPSON returned to RUCKER's apartment and did not observe the black duffel bag. Over the next several hours, THOMPSON overheard RUCKER conduct two telephone conversations. During the first conversation, THOMPSON overheard RUCKER state, "I fucked up. I hit an FBI Agent." During the second conversation, which RUCKER conducted on speaker phone, THOMPSON overheard the voice of an individual she knows as "Buff." She heard Buff tell RUCKER that the FBI was outside his apartment and "they are deep." THOMPSON also heard Buff tell RUCKER that "whatever you got, you better get rid of." THOMPSON heard RUCKER respond to Buff, "I'm not worried about it. I got rid of the piece." THOMPSON indicated that she understood RUCKER to be referring to the gun when he used the term "piece."

24. Shortly after the telephone conversation with Buff, law enforcement officers knocked on the door of the apartment building, and RUCKER told THOMPSON to answer the door. Before exiting the room, THOMPSON observed RUCKER with a watch in his hand go over to a miniature air conditioner unit on the floor. THOMPSON observed RUCKER place the watch inside the air conditioner unit and heard metal-on-metal sounds.

25. THOMPSON told law enforcement officers that in the last five months, THOMPSON has been with RUCKER during approximately five-to-eight thefts of motor vehicles. THOMPSON estimated that RUCKER was responsible for breaking into at least two vehicles per week. THOMPSON stated that RUCKER preferred to break into vehicles parked at fitness centers and near lakes.

26. Lastly, THOMPSON advised that RUCKER owns the Buick, but paid "Ashley" to list her name as the registered owner. THOMPSON described "Ashley" as a 19-year-old, chubby marijuana customer of RUCKER. On July 25, 2011, FBI Agents interviewed BASTIN who stated that she registered the Buick in her name at RUCKER's request. BASTIN advised that she did not receive any money to register the vehicle in her name, but she receives marijuana from RUCKER when she goes to his apartment.

27. I have reviewed the criminal history of MILTON CARLTON RUCKER. He has multiple felony convictions, including a federal

conviction as a felon in possession of a firearm in 1993 prosecuted in the District of Minnesota. RUCKER's other felony convictions include (1) a 1992 theft, (2) a 1992 aggravated robbery, (3) a 2000 drugs-1st degree sale, (4) a 2008 receipt of stolen property, and (5) a 2008 financial transaction fraud. Based on RUCKER's criminal history, he is a prohibited person who cannot transfer, possess, or own a firearm.


28. Based upon the facts set forth in this Affidavit, I respectfully submit that there is probable cause to believe that MILTON RUCKER has violated 18 U.S.C. § 641 (theft of government property), 18 U.S.C. § 1028A (aggravated identity theft), and 18 U.S.C. §§ 1344, 1349 & 2 (conspiracy to commit bank fraud and bank fraud).

29. Based upon the facts set forth in this Affidavit, I respectfully submit that there is probable cause to believe that TANIA MARIE THOMPSON, a/k/a TANIA MARIE CARSON, has violated 18 U.S.C. § 641 (theft of government property), 18 U.S.C. § 1028A (aggravated identity theft), and 18 U.S.C. §§ 1344, 1349 & 2 (conspiracy to commit bank fraud and bank fraud).

30. Based upon these facts conveyed in this affidavit, your Affiant believes that probable cause has been established for a search warrant to allow the FBI to obtain a saliva sample from the mouth of RUCKER and THOMPSON. With a saliva sample, the Hennepin County or BCA Crime Lab Unit would be able to obtain the DNA profile from RUCKER and THOMPSON and compare it to any DNA profile found on the Explorer, Bulova watch, wallet containing the FBI credentials, or the yet-to-be-recovered Special Agent's handgun, holster, and badge.

31. The sample necessary for the forensic laboratory to perform the DNA comparison is not overly burdensome or intrusive on RUCKER or THOMPSON. The sample will be taken by swabbing the inside of RUCKER's and THOMPSON's mouths with a cotton swab. Four samples will be taken, two from each side of the mouth, to ensure that the Hennepin County or BCA Crime Lab Unit has a sufficient amount of cells to perform the necessary analysis.


Further your Affiant sayeth not.

  
 MARK R. FREDKOVE, Special Agent  
 Federal Bureau of Investigation



SUBSCRIBED and SWORN to before me

this 26 day of July, 2011.

  
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THE HONORABLE JEFFREY J. KEYES  
United States Magistrate Judge  
District of Minnesota